



STATE OF WASHINGTON

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
P.O. Box 45040, Olympia, Washington 98504-5040**

July 13, 2005

TO: Children's Service Stakeholders, Tribal Governments

FROM: Cheryl Stephani, Assistant Secretary, Children's Administration

SUBJECT: Improving Services for Children and Families

As part of the continued efforts to strengthen services to children and families and enhance our business practices and financial accountability, I have asked for an independently lead review of service contracts. As part of this review I want to hear from stakeholders regarding our strategy to strengthen contracted services.

A strong business partnership between the Children's Administration and community-based providers of service is essential to an effective child welfare system. Contracted services are an integral part of the state's child welfare system. One of the goals of the contract review is to strengthen the business partnership between the Children's Administration and providers of contracted services.

Because of our continuing responsibility to use our resources in the most effective way, all the services provided by the Children's Administration, both contracted and direct, must be effective and cost beneficial. Our services must focus on our mission and core functions.

In order to increase accountability, effective and efficient contracted service should be available to match client needs. We need to increase the use of performance based contracts and Evidence Based Practice which meets the needs of the children who use these services. In addition, effective contracted services should be available to clients in all Regions of the state.

Three meetings have been scheduled to hear from Stakeholders regarding the contract review. Below you will find the details about time, date and location. At these meetings I will outline my goals for strengthening contracted services. In addition, Cathy Wiggins who is leading this review will outline the progress of the review so far. I anticipate that this discussion will last less than 45 minutes. The bulk of the meeting will be used to hear from you. The meetings will be facilitated by Paul Dziedzic.

If you need any accommodation for these meetings, please contact Susan Sadler at (360) 902-7922.

Seattle
July 28, 2005
1-4:30 p.m.
Shoreline Conference Center

Moses Lake
July 29, 2005
1-4:30 p.m.
Big Bend Community College

Olympia
August 1, 2005
1:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Worthington Center

DIRECTIONS:

Seattle, July 28, 2005 1-4:30 PM
Shoreline Conference Center
18560 1st Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98155

Driving Directions Southbound

1. Take I-5 south to King/Snohomish county line and take the 205th St. exit westbound (Exit 177)
2. Turn right on 205th and go to 1st Avenue NE (1st light)
3. Turn left on 1st Avenue NE and continue south to NE 185th street
4. As you approach 185th street, Shoreline Center will be on your left.
- 5.

Driving Directions Northbound

1. Take I-5 north to NE 175th street (Exit 176)
2. Turn left on NE 175th and go to Meridian Avenue N.
3. Turn right on Meridian and go to NE 185th street
4. Turn right on NE 185th and go to 1st Avenue NE
5. Turn left on 1st Avenue NE and Shoreline Center is on your immediate right.

Visitors to the Staff Development/Conference Center should use the parking lot to the north of the Center.

Moses Lake, July 29, 2005 1-4:40 PM
Big Bend Community College
Auditorium, 1400 Building

Driving Directions From Spokane to Moses Lake

1. From Spokane drive west on I90 for 105 miles.
2. Take the WA-17 exit- EXIT 179 - toward Othello/Moses Lake/Ephrata.
3. At the stop sign on the off ramp, turn right.
4. Turn right onto Hwy 17.
5. Continue on Hwy 17 turning right onto Patton Blvd.
6. Follow Patton Blvd. toward the Grant County Airport.
7. Turn left onto Randolph Road or Bolling St. to access campus parking areas.

Driving Directions From Seattle to Moses Lake

1. From Seattle drive east on I -90
2. Take EXIT 179 - toward Othello/Moses Lake/Ephrata.
3. At the stop sign on the off ramp, turn left.
4. Turn right onto Hwy 17.
5. Continue on Hwy 17 turning right onto Patton Blvd.
6. Follow Patton Blvd. toward the Grant County Airport.
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Olympia, August 1, 2005 1:30-5 PM

Worthington Center

5300 Pacific Ave. South

Lacey, Washington 98503

Driving Directions:

1. From I-5 **northbound** take Exit 108
2. Follow exit to College Street.
3. Turn right on College Street.
4. Continue on College Street to Lacey Blvd. and turn left.
5. Continue on Lacey Blvd. to Franz St. and turn left
6. Continue on Franz Street until you reach the entrance at Pacific Avenue and Father Meinrad Gaul Drive.

1. From I-5 **southbound** take Exit 109
2. Follow exit to College Street.
3. Turn left on College Street.
4. Continue on College Street to Lacey Blvd. and turn left.
5. Continue on Lacey Blvd. to Franz St. and turn left
6. Continue on Franz Street until you reach the entrance at Pacific Avenue and Father Meinrad Gaul Drive.